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January 14, 2014

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H. *JE Fielding MD*
Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT: **DISCHARGE DATA FROM SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT
SERVICES FOR AB 109 POPULATION**

On December 17, 2013, following the presentation on Year Two of the AB 109 program, your Board instructed the Director of Public Health (DPH) to clarify what constitutes discharge from substance abuse treatment programs for the AB 109 population, including a subset of outcomes for those exiting treatment programs.

For the AB 109 population, discharge status is defined per the California Outcome Measurement System (CalOMS) and the Los Angeles County Participant Reporting System (LACPRS) as the following:

Completion:

- 1) Completed Treatment/Recovery Plan – The patient has successfully completed his/her recovery plan, and has met the major goals set forth in the plan.

Non-Completion:

- 2) Left Before Completion with Satisfactory Progress – The patient did not complete the program, but was in treatment services long enough to (in the judgment of the provider's staff) have made significant progress toward achieving the goals set forth in his/her recovery plan.
- 3) Left Before Completing Treatment/Recovery Plan with Unsatisfactory Progress – The patient has dropped out of or has been dismissed from treatment services in this facility.

As part of classifying a patient as completing an episode of treatment, treatment programs develop a discharge plan that is integral to ensuring a patient's success. Discharge planning includes the following practices, but is not limited to:

- Frequent interactions and communications with the assigned Deputy Probation Office who is advised of the patient's progress during treatment, including plans for ancillary referrals such as medical, vocational, housing, or other resources as needed.
- No positive urinalysis results or unexcused absences for testing for a minimum of 30 days.
- No unexcused absences from scheduled services for 60 days.
- Fulfillment of identified problems, goals, and objectives as stated in the patient's treatment plan.
- Development of support network including alumni groups, mentorship programs, and self-help groups.

The following table breaks down discharge status by outcomes for those exiting substance abuse treatment programs:

DISCHARGE STATUS	YEAR ONE	%	YEAR TWO	%	TOTAL
Completed Treatment/Recovery Plan, Goals	231	32.0	551	32.0	782
Left Before Completion with Satisfactory Progress	121	16.8	255	14.8	376
Left Before Completion with Unsatisfactory Progress	370	51.2	915	53.2	1,285
	722	100.0	1,721	100.0	2,443

If you have questions or would like additional information, please let me know.

JEF:jmb

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Probation